

C1. (Canceled)

C2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein said composition is administered intranasally over a period of about five to fourteen days and then discontinued, providing at least many weeks worth of continuing pain diminishment thereafter.

C3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein said painful disorder is selected from the group consisting of headache, neuralgia, and neuropathy.

C4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said composition is administered topically to the skin over a short period of about two weeks to several months and then discontinued, providing at least many weeks or months worth of continuing pain diminishment thereafter.

C5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein said painful disorder is selected from the group consisting of arthritis, neuralgia, and neuropathy.

C6. (New) A method of providing relatively long term diminishment of pain comprising

(a) administering over a relatively short period a composition of civamide (cis-8-methyl-N-vanillyl-6-nonanamide) or one of its salts in an amount of about 0.001% to 1% (weight/weight) in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, to achieve diminishment of pain,

- (b) discontinuing said treatment of step (a) for a relatively long period, at least some diminishment of pain continuing through this period, and
- (c) repeating steps (a) and (b) at least once and thereafter as needed for treatment of pain.

C7. (New) A method of providing relatively long term diminishment of pain comprising

(a) intranasally administering over a period of about five to fourteen days a composition of civamide (cis-8-methyl-N-vanillyl-6-nonenamide) or one of its salts in an amount of about 0.001% to 1% (weight/weight) in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, to achieve diminishment of pain,

(b) discontinuing said treatment of step (a) for a period of at least about three to six weeks, at least some diminishment of pain continuing through this period, and

(c) repeating the treatment of steps (a) and (b) upon the return of the pain.

C8. (New) The method of claim 7 wherein said pain is associated with a disorder selected from the group consisting of headache, arthritis, neuralgia, and neuropathy.

C9. (New) A method of providing relatively long term diminishment of pain form arthritis, neuralgia, or neuropathy comprising

(a) topically administering over a period of about two to four weeks a composition comprising civamide (cis-8-methyl-N-vanillyl-6-nonenamide) or one of its salts in an amount of about 0.001% to 1% (weight/weight) in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, to achieve diminishment of the arthritis, neuralgia or neuropathic pain,

(b) discontinuing said treatment of step (a) for a period of at least about two to four months, at least some diminishment of pain continuing through this period, and

(c) repeating the treatment of steps (a) and (b) upon the return of the pain.